

June 10, 2004

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RE: Application No. 09/940,969
Filing Date: 08/28/01
Inventor: Julia G. M. Watson
Examiner: Jason Prone

Dear Mr. Prone;

In response to your Office Action Summary dated May 13, 2004, please accept this letter as my answer.

I would like to combine Claims 1 and 9, and make them all Claim 1. They are the same idea/invention, with different (inside cabinet) options. After combining Claims 1 and 9, you may cancel Claim 9 as an independent Claim.

Concerning Claim 2 – this deals with Species A, Figure 2.

Concerning Claim 3-6 – these deal with either version of the Wrap Center.

Concerning Claims 7 & 8 – these deal with only Species B, the optional insert into the inside of the Wrap Center, which would optionally REPLACE that shown in Figure 2.

Incorporate Claim 10 into Claim 1.

Cancel Claim 11.

Concerning Claim 12, this may also be combined into Claim 1, as it deals with the internal working parts of the Wrap Center. After combining, Cancel Claim 12.

Claim 13-18 may either be left alone, or combined with Claim 1, as they all deal with the different versions of the Wrap Center.

Claim 19-20 may be left as is written.

I am also including a copy of an earlier answer from my former attorney, which outlines the different options of this invention. I feel that most of these actions could have been taken care of with the first Office Action. I want to be sure that I am obtaining a patent on the "idea" of the Wrap Center – no matter how many versions of the interior working parts a person may come up with. The idea is of a "wrapping work station" that folds up to store items needed for wrapping a gift, and opens up to create a working platform.

Thank you for your help in this matter, and let me know if there are further questions concerning this application.

Sincerely,
Julie Watson-Backenkeller



9/3/03 12:05 PAGE 1/1 RightFAX
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To: Examiner Jason D. Prone at (703) 672-9302
Group Art Unit 3724

From: Craig Fleschko Pages: 3

Date: September 3, 2003 Time: 10:55 AM CST

RESPOND TO Craig Fleschko (West Office)

Tel: 608-628-0722 Fax: 608-631-2106 Email: cdf@dewittross.com

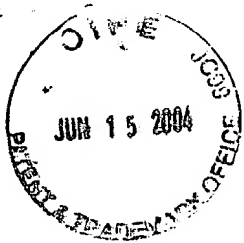
Re: Our Ref. 79368.000
Your Ref. USPN: 09/940,969

RE:
Serial No.: 09/940,969 Group Art Unit: 3724
Filing Date: August 28, 2001 Examiner: Prone, Jason D.
Applicant(s): Watson et al. Atty. Docket: 79368.000
Title: COMPACT STORAGE UNIT AND WORKSTATION FOR ROLLED
AND/OR COILED MATERIALS

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Serial No.: 09/940,969
Filing Date: August 28, 2001
Applicant(s): Watson et al.
Title: COMPACT STORAGE UNIT AND WORKSTATION FOR ROLLED
AND/OR COILED MATERIALS

Group Art Unit: 3724
Examiner: Prone, Jason D.
Atty. Docket: 79368.000

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES
(37 CFR §1.146)

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To the Commissioner:

A request for election of species was mailed on August 28, 2003, with the Examiner identifying species A-D. Please note that it appears the invention (as claimed) may be misunderstood, and that the species may be misidentified. In this respect, it may be useful to review the Summary of the Invention at pages 3-6 of the application: as briefly reviewed in this section, the cabinet of species A (primarily shown in Figs. 1-2) is usable with the dividing unit of Fig. 4 and/or with one of the roll racks of (1) Figs. 5-6, (2) Figs. 7-8, or (3) Figs. 9-10. Fig. 3 specifically illustrates the combination of both the dividing unit of Fig. 4 and the roll rack of Figs. 5-6 within the cabinet of Figs. 1-2. In the claims:

- Claims 1-8: Encompass species A (Figs. 1-2), with claims 7-8 particularly encompassing species A used with the dividing unit of Fig. 4.
- Claims 9-18: Encompass species A (Figs. 1-2) particularly in conjunction with a roll rack such as the one illustrated in (1) Figs. 5-6, (2) Figs. 7-8, or (3) Figs. 9-10, with claims 13-14 particularly encompassing species A used with the dividing unit of Fig. 4.

I certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as follows:

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- Claims 19-20: Encompass species A (Figs. 1-2).

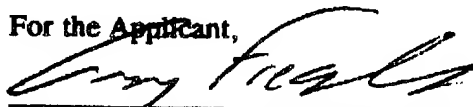
In other words, while the embodiments of (1) Figs. 5-6, (2) Figs. 7-8, or (3) Figs. 9-10 are different species of roll racks, the remaining species identified by the Examiner are not truly species of the same invention. Regarding the embodiments of (1) Figs. 5-6, (2) Figs. 7-8, and (3) Figs. 9-10, it is noted that claim 10 encompasses the species of Figs. 7-8 and Figs. 9-10, but excludes the species of Figs. 5-6; and claim 11 encompasses the species of Figs. 9-10, but excludes the species of Figs. 5-6 and Figs. 7-8. Thus, if any one of the species of (1) Figs. 5-6, (2) Figs. 7-8, and (3) Figs. 9-10 must be elected, the Applicant hereby elects the species of Figs.

~~9-10~~ With respect, it is otherwise not possible to make an election in the manner requested by the Examiner because the identified species are not really separate species of the same invention.

If the election request is clarified, the Applicant will endeavor to promptly respond; please do not hesitate to call the undersigned attorney if you wish to discuss this matter.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments relating to this application to deposit account number 18-2055.

For the Applicant,



Craig A. Fleschko, Reg. No. 39,668

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